

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Hiroaki Sato

Serial No.: 10/086,867

Filed: March 4, 2002

For: MOBILE COMMUNICATION
APPARATUS

Atty. Docket No.: 000449.00012

Group Art Unit: 2617

Examiner: Matthew W. Genack

Confirmation No.: 3965

AMENDMENT

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Window, Mail Stop Amendment
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

The present paper is responsive to the non-final Office Action mailed July 11, 2006 in the above-identified application, and is being filed during the shortened statutory period for responding to the Action, which is set to expire on October 11, 2006. Accordingly, no extension fees are believed to be due in connection with this filing. However, should any such fees be due, please charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Please amend the instant application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A mobile communication apparatus comprising:

a card controller configured to control a card connected to the mobile communication apparatus, where the card controller reads out a first information from the card, said first information indicating a characteristic of a mobile network to which said card belongs;

an interface configured to receive second information broadcast from a mobile network in which said apparatus is located, said second information indicating a characteristic of said mobile network in which said apparatus is located; and

a memory, said memory storing a table identifying an operation to be performed by the mobile communication apparatus corresponding to the first and second information, wherein said apparatus is configured to set an operation to be performed by the mobile communication apparatus stored in the table based on a comparison of said first and second information, and wherein said table identifies a plurality of home and registered network pairs ~~networks~~ and one or more different incoming call handling-routing operations for each of said ~~plurality of networks~~ pairs.

Claim 2 (Original): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first and second information comprise a country code.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the memory comprises a removably connected and customer interchangeable integrated circuit.

Claims 4-25 (Canceled)

Claim 26 (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first information is a country code of a home network of the mobile communication apparatus, and the table further stores a telephone number to which the operation applies.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a display that displays a roaming message if a country code in said first information does not coincide with a country code in said second information.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 27, wherein the display displays caller ID from the mobile network in which said apparatus is located with the roaming message.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first information includes a country code and a network code of a home network of the mobile communication apparatus.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the operation is at least one of accepting an incoming call, ignoring an incoming call, forwarding an incoming call to a voice mail service, and recording a voice mail on the mobile communication apparatus.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended) A mobile communication apparatus comprising:

a card controller configured to control a card connected to the mobile communication apparatus, where the card controller reads out ~~first information~~ home country code information and home network code information from the card;

an interface configured to receive ~~second information~~ registered country code information and registered network code information from a mobile network in which said apparatus is located; and

a memory, said memory storing a table identifying a plurality of sets of home country code information, home network code information, registered country code information and registered network code information, and for each set, an identification of an incoming call handling operation to be performed by the mobile communication apparatus in response to an incoming call ~~corresponding to the first and second information~~, and a time period for permitting the operation.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the operation is receiving an incoming call.

Claim 33 (Canceled)

Claim 34 (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the operation is one of accepting an incoming call, ignoring an incoming call, forwarding an incoming call to a voice mail service, and recording a voice mail on the mobile communication apparatus.

Claim 35 (Currently Amended) A mobile communication apparatus, comprising:

one or more storage devices; and

a controller, wherein said controller is configured to:

determine a roaming status of said mobile communication apparatus by comparing network indication information stored in said one or more storage devices with broadcast network indication information received by said apparatus from a mobile network in which said mobile communication apparatus is located; ~~and~~

set a future incoming call handling operation of said apparatus based on said controller-determined roaming status and a schedule stored in said one or more storage devices;

display, on a display of said apparatus, an indication of said roaming status; and
display, on said display of said apparatus, a message indicating a location to which future incoming calls will be routed based on said roaming status.

Claim 36 (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein said one or more storage devices includes a removably-inserted and user interchangeable memory card.

Claim 37 (Canceled).

Claim 38 (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein said controller is configured to allow a user of said mobile communication apparatus to set a future incoming call handling operation for international roaming.

Claim 39 (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first information includes home country code identification information and home network code identification information for said apparatus; and said second information includes registered country code identification information and registered network code identification information for a network in which said apparatus is located.

Claim 40 (New) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein said table identifies at least one incoming call routing operation based on said home and registered country code identification information alone, without regard to said home and registered network code identification information.

Claim 41 (New) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a display, and a controller configured to display, on said display, an indication of a roaming status of said apparatus, and a message indicating how future incoming calls will be handled based on said roaming status.

Claim 42 (New) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein said message indicates a location to which future incoming calls will be routed.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action, claims 1-3 and 26-38 were pending. Upon entry of the present paper, claims 33 and 37 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 1, 3, 31, 35 and 36 are amended, and new claims 39-42 are added. The rejections were as follows:

- Claims 1-3, 26, 29 and 31-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of an alleged combination of *Park et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,714,799) and *Blood et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,456,706);
- Claims 35-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over an alleged combination of *Park et al.*, *Blood et al.* and *Anvekar* (U.S. Patent No. 6,684,072);
- Claims 27-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over an alleged combination of *Park et al.*, *Anvekar* and *Lobo* (U.S. Patent No. 7,054,658);
- Claims 30 and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over an alleged combination of *Park et al.*, *Lobo*, *Link, II et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,334,054) and *Haas et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,615,036)

Independent Claim 1, and Dependent Claims 2-3, 26-30 and 39-42

Amended independent claim 1 recites, among other features, the “table identifies a plurality of home and registered network pairs and one or more different incoming call routing operations for each of said pairs.” None of the applied references teaches or suggests the claim 1 apparatus with such a table. The primary reference cited in the Office Action for a table is *Lobo*. The *Lobo* lookup table (206/306) defines a number of different pulse functions to be used for telephone transmissions, and those functions are selected based on cost (or error) functions. See, e.g., col. 10, lines 18-20. There is no teaching or suggestion in *Lobo* of a table identifying the home/registered network pairs recited in amended claim 1, or of the incoming call routing operations (*Lobo* uses its pulse function for modulating an outgoing transmission).

The other references do not overcome this deficiency. The Office Action already concedes that *Park et al.* fails to teach or suggest the originally-recited table. The *Anvekar et al.* phone relies on the Mobile Switching Center (MSC) and Service Processing Node (SPN) to handle incoming calls while roaming, and does not teach or suggest such a table. See, e.g., col. 6, line 64 to col. 7, line 48. The *Blood et al.* screening device is connected in the user's home, and there is no teaching or suggestion of including such a table (indeed, it does not roam or register itself). *Haas et al.* relates to downloading a voice mail message, without reference to roaming or registration, and although *Link II et al.* uses a de-registration signal to simulate the user turning his/her phone off (col. 2, lines 55-56), there is no teaching or suggestion of the recited table.

For at least these reasons, we submit that amended independent claim 1 distinguishes over the applied references. Claims 2-3, 26-30 and 39-42 depend from claim 1, and are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1, and further in view of the features recited therein. For example, new claim 39 recites country code and network code information for the first and second information, and claim 41 recites displaying "an indication of a roaming status of said apparatus, and a message indicating how future incoming calls will be handled based on said roaming status."

Independent Claim 31, and Dependent Claims 32 and 34

Amended independent claim 31 recites, among other features, "a table identifying a plurality of sets of home country code information, home network code information, registered country code information and registered network code information, and for each set, an identification of an incoming call handling operation to be performed by the mobile

communication apparatus in response to an incoming call, and a time period for permitting the operation.” None of the applied references stores such a table identifying such a plurality of sets of information. As noted above, the cited lookup table from *Lobo* is based on cost (or error) functions, and not on the home or registered network, and there is no teaching or suggestion in *Lobo* that its transmitter will include such a table.

The other applied references do not overcome this deficiency, for much of the same reasons discussed above. Accordingly, Applicant submits that amended claim 31 distinguishes over the applied references. Claims 32 and 34 depend from claim 31, and are distinguishable for at least the same reasons as claim 31, and further in view of the various features recited therein.

Independent Claim 35, and Dependent Claims 36 and 38

Amended independent claim 35 recites, among other features, the controller being configured to “display, on a display of said apparatus, an indication of said roaming status; and display, on said display of said apparatus, a message indicating a location to which future incoming calls will be routed based on said roaming status.” The Office Action previously relied on *Anvekar et al.* for the notion of displaying a roaming status, citing col. 5, line 36 to col. 6, line 18 and Fig. 7). As an initial matter, the cited portions only describe a roaming authentication; they make no mention of displaying a roaming status. Even assuming, *arguendo*, that displaying a roaming status on the phone would be obvious (as alleged), there is no teaching or suggestion of displaying the message indicating a location to which future incoming calls will be routed based on said roaming status, as claimed in amended claim 35.

CONCLUSION

All rejections having been addressed, Applicant respectfully submits that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicits prompt notification of the same. However, if the Examiner believes that further discussion and/or amendment is necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's undersigned representative at the number appearing below.

Respectfully submitted,
BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: October 9, 2006

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